

NORFOLK BOARD OF FINANCE
MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2024 SPECIAL MEETING



Members present were: M. Sconyers, S. Anderson, J. Bickford, G. Mudge, J. Tarrant and alternate L. Battis; alternate R. Miller later joined the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by M. Sconyers.

L. Battis was appointed to fill in for M. Kwast.

The December 12, 2023 minutes were approved on Motion of L. Battis, second by S. Anderson and unanimously approved.

Under correspondence, a letter from Reg. 7 regarding a Special BOE Meeting inviting chairpersons was assigned by M. Sconyers to J. Bickford to cover.

The First Selectman reported the Town has received \$208,000 from LoCIP towards the \$567,000 flood damage bills. M. Riiska has instructed everyone at Town Hall and Public Works not to spend money unless absolutely necessary; he is hopeful to not need more salt. The Town will complete tree trimming and cutting by Town crews along with drainage work and has a lot of different projects that are ongoing. Spending is at approximately 66%-67%.

The Firehouse project is getting closer to the end of Planning and Zoning issues. The First Selectman has received an application for a grant through OPM and is submitting a preliminary application on Friday, February 23rd. M. Riiska continues researching additional grants for the new firehouse now estimated at \$6,000,000.00. Tony Kiser and Carlene Laughlin have committed to helping raise money for the construction. The Town is also the recipient of a \$5,000 grant from Emergency Management.

Due to a slip and fall case, the Town will have to enact an ordinance for snow clearing and complete more work on sidewalks.

The Pension Committee is in the process of looking for annuities to replace the retirement plan.

Regarding setting the schedule for the 2024 Budget Meetings, the Board of Selectman will present their budget at the BOF's regularly scheduled meeting in March. The BOE will present their budget sometime between the BOF's regularly scheduled March and April meetings. The First Selectman requests ideas by the March meeting to be able to answer questions at the April meeting. M. Riiska continues getting quotes. The Town Meeting will be May 13th. Heating oil and diesel expenses went down with the budget. The bids for the Botelle school boilers have not yet been received. The Transfer Station expense is increasing from \$115/per ton to \$131/per ton. Norfolk produces 800 tons of garbage a year. Options will need to be discussed as the price for trash removal is expected to significantly increase within the next two to three years.

On Motion of J. Tarrant, second by L. Battis and unanimously approved, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer M. Ryan, Secretary